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Viewing cable 10QUITO45, GOE Expectations for Secretary Meeting with Correa as UNASUR

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables (<u>browse by origin</u> to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this <u>WikiSource</u> article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at theparagraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags #cablegate and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. #10QUITO45.

Reference ID Created Released Classification Origin

10QUITO45 2010-01-27 23:14 2011-08-30 01:44 CONFIDENTIAL Embassy Quito

Appears in these articles:

http://www.eluniverso.com/2011/04/09/1/1355/cable-245868.html

VZCZCXYZ0000 OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHQT #0045 0272314 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O R 272314Z JAN 10 FM AMEMBASSY QUITO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0704 INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS RUEHGE/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA RUEHPO/AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OUITO RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 000045

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2025/01/27

TAGS: PREL MARR KTIA EC CO XR

SUBJECT: GOE Expectations for Secretary Meeting with Correa as UNASUR

Head

REF: OUITO 56; OUITO 33

CLASSIFIED BY: Heather M. H...

id: 245868

date: 1/27/2010 23:14 refid: 10QUITO45 origin: Embassy Quito

classification: CONFIDENTIAL
destination: 10QUITO33 | 10QUITO56

header: VZCZCXYZ0000 OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHQT #0045 0272314 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O R 272314Z JAN 10 FM AMEMBASSY QUITO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0704 INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS RUEHGE/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN RUEHGL/AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA RUEHPO/AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA

----- header ends -----

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 000045

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2025/01/27
TAGS: PREL MARR KTIA EC CO XR

SUBJECT: GOE Expectations for Secretary Meeting with Correa as UNASUR

Head

REF: QUITO 56; QUITO 33

CLASSIFIED BY: Heather M. Hodges, Ambassador; REASON: 1.4(D)

- 11. (C) Summary: The Secretary's January 15 letter to President Correa in his capacity as interim leader of UNASUR was portrayed by the Ecuadorian press and GOE as the Secretary agreeing to meet with UNASUR on the U.S.-Colombia Defense Cooperation Agreement. Assistant Secretary Valenzuela's comments helped clarify that the meeting was a long way from finalized. Nevertheless, the GOE continues to publicly refer to such a meeting. The January 28-29 UNASUR defense ministerial may generate additional expectation of a UNASUR meeting with the Secretary. End summary.
- 12. (SBU) The Secretary's letter to President Correa (Ref A) received considerable press attention on January 19 when the UNASUR Coordinator announced that Correa had received a response from the Secretary regarding UNASUR's invitation, which had proposed a meeting with the USG to discuss "topics of vital importance to the region." The press portrayed the response as the Secretary agreeing that she would meet with UNASUR. An article on the subject on the official GOE website appeared as the lead item and included a photograph of Correa with the Secretary, reinforcing the impression that the Secretary would do the meeting. President Correa was quoted on January 21 saying that "the Secretary agreed to begin the dialogue."

- ¶3. (C) Local reporting of Assistant Secretary Valenzuela's January 22 comments that no meeting with UNASUR had yet been finalized and that it was important to first establish an agenda helped put the possibility of such a meeting into perspective. When we expressed concern on January 22 to Ecuador's deputy UNASUR coordinator, Marjorie Ulloa, she assured us that the MFA understood a meeting was not imminent. She said the MFA was getting in touch with other UNASUR members on possible topics for a U.S.-UNASUR meeting and that it would be better not to rush the process.
- ¶4. (SBU) Nonetheless, on January 24 newly appointed Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino expressed his intention to establish a thematic agenda for a "future UNASUR meeting with the Secretary." Referring to USG access to Colombian bases, Patino added that "we believe that this is a necessary point in the agenda, now, after having received a positive response from the United States on dialogue with UNASUR." (Patino also noted that he intended to advance a bilateral dialogue to improve relations with Colombia.)
- 15. (C) Another factor in the equation is that Ecuadorian Ambassador to Washington Luis Gallegos appears to believe that the invitation by Correa on behalf of UNASUR is a good vehicle for getting a meeting for Correa with the Secretary.
- 16. (SBU) Following two days of preparatory meetings, UNASUR ministers of defense will meet in Manta on January 28-29 and may approve a proposed Procedure of Application of Confidence and Security Building Measures, as well as a UNASUR Peace and Cooperation Protocol. Defense Minister Javier Ponce reportedly said on January 26 that the defense ministers would take advantage of the opportunity to discuss the U.S.-Colombia Defense Cooperation Agreement, although it was not on the official agenda and would not be the principal subject of the meeting. He indicated that this would include a discussion of what subjects UNASUR heads of state should discuss with the USG in regard to the U.S.-Colombia agreement.